

County of Los Angeles – Department of Mental Health
OFFICE OF THE MENTAL HEALTH COMMISSION

Thursday, March 25, 2010

~ Approved Minutes ~

Please note the minutes are a brief summary and not a word for word transcription of events at this meeting.

Jerry Lubin Chair, Presiding

I. Call to Order – Jerry Lubin

The meeting was called to order.

II. Roll Call – Canetana Hurd

Attendance recorded as follows:

- Absent Excused: Howard Askins, Carlos Sosa, Lana Brody, Greg Thompson, Hayward McNeill, and Phillip Chen

III. Approval of Minutes – Jerry Lubin

ACTION TAKEN – Motion to approve the February 25, 2010 minutes was passed. The motion was moved and seconded by Commissioners Wolff and Perrou.

IV. Chair's Report

Public Hearing – Jerry Lubin announced the Public Hearing is scheduled April 8, 2010 and will start at 12 pm. The Executive Committee agenda will start at 9:30 am. Mr. Lubin reiterated concerns of the Commission regarding last minute announcements of public hearings from the department's Planning Division. It is expected that the MHSA Planning staff will work more closely with the Commission to better communicate scheduled future public hearing dates.

Health Care Reform – A discussion took place on President Obama signing the first legislation on Health Care Reform in years. Issues discussed were:

- The elimination of 90% of indigent clients who will ultimately be enrolled and transferred to 100% federal Medi-cal.
- Recovery models will move entirely to the clinics under integration
- National impact--community support will greatly increase.

Executive Committee Meeting Highlights – Larry Gasco reported on topics discussed at the Executive Committee meeting March 11, 2010.

- STATS – The STATS meetings are a very positive exercise headed by Dr. Robin Kay

- Older Adult Presentations – Commended George Caballero on the extensive preparation accomplished for the Older Adult presentations at the full Commission meetings.
- DMH Report – The department expects the budget will be better next fiscal year. DMH is preparing to serve new populations; parolees from the Department of Corrections and veterans returning from the war.

Older Adults

George Caballero informed the Commission of his meeting with Carlotta Childs-Seagle, DMH Deputy Director, Older Adults Bureau to discuss a pilot project. Mr. Caballero stated the project will involve the Lennox Fire Station. Mr. Caballero also stated the Lennox Fire Station is the model because it is a high utilizer facility in the Los Angeles County Fire Department.

V. Commissioners' Reports

Victoria Sofro announced four commissioners will attend the Connections for Life Conference on April 7. The conference will have media coverage.

Barry Perrou announced the details of the Stepping In Conference and recommended to RSVP soon because attendance is near capacity.

Frank Baron discussed concerns on the increase of suicides particularly the latest in the entertainment industry.

Delores Huffman submitted the following housing report:

MHSA Housing Program

Twenty-nine projects are actively participating in the Mental Health Services Act (MHSA) Housing Program application process. The status of each project as of March 19, 2010 is shown below:

Developing Service Plan for Public Posting and Comment Period

- Avalon II Family Apartments

Preparing Technical Submission

- New Genesis Apartments
- VOALA Navy Village for Families
- Swarthy World Society Apartments

Technical Submission under Review

- Parkview on the Park Apartments
- David & Margaret Home, Inc. – Hope
- Parker Hotel

Invitation to Submit Full Application

- Bobbie Owens Family Living Community
- KIWA Apartments
- Willis Avenue Apartments

Application Submitted to the State Pending Approval

- PWC Family Housing
- Osborne Place Apartments
- Figueroa Apartments
- 28th St. YMCA Residences
- Step Up on Vine (Galaxy Hotel)
- NoHo Senior Villas

Approved for Funding by the State

- Young Burlington
- Courtyards in Long Beach
- Glenoaks Gardens
- Progress Place I and II
- Nehemiah Court Apartments
- Villas at Gower
- Ford Apartments
- Caroline Severance Manor
- Daniel's Village
- Charles Cobb Apartments
- Epworth Apartments
- Horizon Apartments
- Menlo Family Housing

Open for Occupancy

- Daniel's Village
- Charles Cobb Apartments

Housing Trust Fund Program

Of the 12 Housing Trust Fund (HTF) Program awardees, eight housing projects are in operation as of March 19, 2010. Through the HTF Program, supportive services are being provided to approximately 200 tenants residing in permanent supportive housing. The provision of services assists formerly homeless tenants maintain their housing and pursue their recovery goals. Originally scheduled to open March 2010, the Bonnie Brae Apartments' opening has been delayed due to issues related to the project-based subsidies awarded through the Department of Housing and Urban Development. Construction has begun for Project Home, the Downtown Women's Center housing project. Project Home is scheduled to open in December 2010. The remaining projects, Glenoaks Gardens Apartments and Mini Twelve Step are slated to open in winter 2011.

Ongoing & Upcoming Activities

Emergency Food and Shelter Program

Under the Emergency Food and Shelter Program (EFSP) the Department applied for \$80,000 in motel vouchers and \$80,000 in food vouchers for a total of \$160,000 but was approved to receive only \$62,000. Upon receipt of this award, these resources will be available countywide through our directly-operated clinics.

VI. Special Presentations

MHSA Implementation Update – Debbie Innes-Gomberg

Dr. Innes-Gomberg's presentation focused mainly on the MHSA Community Services and Supports (CSS) Plan. The CSS Plan has been the emphasis over the past year and most of the data is available to validate. Dr. Innes-Gomberg reported the following statistics and discussed updates on FSP Programs, Planning, Outreach and Engagement, and Systems Development. Data gleaned from fiscal year 2008/2009 through the 2nd quarter:

- FSP enrollment from all age groups totals 6,620 representing 91% of the goal
- Field Capable Clinical Services served all age groups; Child-291, TAY-390, Adult-4,218, and Older Adult-1,664
- Wellness and Client Run Centers – 18,265 served
- Internet reports in use - providers are capable of entering their own reports on client's living arrangements, jail data, and homeless data categories into the system.

Dr. Innes-Gomberg concluded the presentation with questions and answers from the audience.

Home and Community-based Services for Older Adults: Needs and Barriers," Eileen Koons, Huntington Hospital Senior Care Programs Community and Senior Services

Ms. Koons spoke on the programs, projects, and services offered at the Huntington Hospital Senior Care service. Services for older adults began 25 years ago as a pilot project. The hospital's mission is to maximize the wellness and independence of adults in the community. An additional component is to assist older adults leave nursing facilities and return home. Ms. Koons discussed some of the program's accomplishments:

- 6,800 persons served annually through resource centers, care coordination services provided by social workers and nurses, and partnership collaborative

- Health education on adults 50+ on health issues, presentations are free to community
- Evaluations and testing of the top chronic medical conditions conducted to assist primary physicians
- Geriatric social worker intern program available for 2nd year graduate students
- Social work and nursing services represent coordinated care services. Serve adults in their homes where they feel comfortable
- Average age is about 81, mainly female, and most live alone
- Ethnic breakdown--50% Latino, 20% Asian/Pacific Islander, 20% African-American, 10% White, 1% Native American, and 2% Other
- Challenges or barriers identified pertaining to service delivery are the cost of doing business resulting in reimbursement delays; contract provisions and mandates; staff recruitment and retention; and implementing evidence-based practices

VII. Departmental Report – Dr. Marvin J. Southard, Director

Dr. Southard reported on the following budget issue:

- The budget deficit has improved because of an increase in sales revenue that reduced the curtailment from \$45 million to \$25 million. The department has set up several action plans to transform services, restore intended curtailments, and expand programs resulting from the budget change.
- **Legislative Report – Susan Rajlal**
Ms. Rajlal, Legislative Analyst, updated the Commission on program issues involving Senate rejections and budget gaps that can be cut. Ms. Rajlal discussed a field poll conducted by a non partisan group identified 65% of voters surveyed did not want to see cuts to mental health services. Ms. Rajlal recommended that more MHSA accomplishments continue to be in the spotlight.

VIII. Community and SAAC (Service Area Advisory Committee) Reports

SAAC 2 - Roberta Burkenheim, Representative, reported on the following:

- SAAC met at the beginning of the month on the 2nd Tuesday
- Identified Jim Randall as the "Champion Award" recipient
- The service area will celebrate both the DMH 50th Anniversary and the San Fernando Valley Mental Health 40th Anniversary together. It is designing a visual display for May is Mental Health Month recognition.
- The food bank is very busy
- Plans to collaborate with the Skid Row community to arrange a visit to the San Fernando Valley
- Opening an Art Room for consumers to experience all types of art design

SAAC 6 - Dorothy Banks, Co-Chair, reported on the following activities from the SAAC:

- SAAC met March 18, 2010
- Discussed renewing and restoring members, guidelines for SAAC membership, and duties
- Discussed plans for Empowerment and Advocacy conference and DMH 50th celebration

IX. Public Comments - None

X. Meeting Adjourned

XI. PLEASE NOTE NEXT MEETING LOCATION

**Thursday, April 22, 2010
Noon – 2:30 pm
500 W. Temple Street
Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration - Room 739
Los Angeles, CA 90012**

Please contact the Commission office at (213) 738 4772 if you need more information

Submitted by Canetana Hurd